

OUTSIDE THE SYSTEM

INFORMATION

7/24/72

5782X

SECRET/SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. KISSINGER

FROM: JOHN H. HOLDRIDGE

SUBJECT: Targeting Assistance by CIA Regional Bases

Attached at Tab A for your information is a memorandum from Richard Helms describing a highly effective program in which CIA Regional bases in Vietnam have provided targeting intelligence to assist Regional Military commands. The program has been particularly successful in MR's 2 and 3 where it has led to the pinpointing and destruction of a number of enemy base areas through air strikes and ground operations.

Mr. Helms notes that in MR 3, for example, exploitation of intelligence furnished by the CIA led to a series of neutralizations dating from January 1971 against 17 Viet Cong infrastructure installations. In one special operation in March 1972, 700 VC/VCI were killed, due largely to carefully targeted air strikes. More recently, B-52 raids were directed against CIA provided targets which resulted in over 200 VC killed in the Parrot's Beak area (June 19) and at least 200 NVA casualties in Phuoc Long Province (June 22).

In MR 2, a Montagnard agent net operated by the Nha Trang Base was responsible for more than 40% of the air strikes in the defense of Kontum and provided the only on-the-ground source of bomb damage assessment in this area.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS  
APPLY

SECRET/SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY